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(cont)
10 based on the detected inclination angle of the document
positioning member;

an image reading device for reading an image of the
document positioned on the document holder; and

a correcting device for correcting an inclination angle
of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with
the stored inclination information.

2. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the means for storing the inclination information
comprises a memory.

3. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 2,
further comprising an inputting device for inputting the
inclination information to the memory.

4. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 3,
wherein the inputting device is connected to an outside inputting
device, and the inputting device receives the inclination
information from the outside inputting device.

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15 5. (Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:
a document holder on which a document is placed;
a document feeder for feeding the document in a feeding
direction and stopping the document on the document holder;

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5 means for detecting an inclination angle of a test
pattern image fed by the document feeder and stopped on the
document holder, and for storing inclination information based on
the detected inclination angle;

10 an image reading device for reading an image of the
document stopped on the document holder, wherein the image
reading device moves in a sub-scanning direction so as to read
the image; and

15 a correcting device for correcting an inclination angle
of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with
the stored inclination information.

6. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 5,
wherein the means for storing the inclination information
comprises a memory.

7. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 6,
further comprising an inputting device for inputting the
inclination information to the memory.

8. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 7,
wherein the inputting device is connected to an outside inputting
device, and the inputting device receives the inclination
information from the outside inputting device.

9. (Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:

a document holder on which a document is placed;

a document feeder for feeding the document in a feeding direction and stopping the document on the document holder;

5 means for detecting an inclination angle of a test pattern image fed by the document feeder and stopped on the document holder, and for first storing inclination information based on the detected inclination angle;

10 a document positioning member with reference to which the document is positioned on the document holder;

15 means for detecting an inclination angle of the document positioning member with respect to a main body of the image reading apparatus, and for storing second inclination information based on the detected inclination angle of the document positioning member;

an image reading device for reading an image of the document stopped on the document holder, wherein the image reading device moves in a sub-scanning direction so as to read the image; and

20 a correcting device for correcting an inclination angle of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with the second inclination information when the document is positioned on the document holder without being fed by the document feeder, and for correcting the inclination angle of the
25 image read by the image reading device in accordance with the

first inclination information when the document is fed and stopped on the document holder by the document feeder.

10. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 9, wherein the means for storing the first inclination information and the means for storing the second inclination comprises at least one memory.

11. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 10, wherein the at least one memory comprises a first memory for storing the first inclination information and a second memory for storing the second inclination information.

12. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 10, further comprising an inputting device for inputting the first inclination information and the second inclination information.

13. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 12, wherein the inputting device is connected to an outside inputting device, and the inputting device receives the inclination information from the outside inputting device.

14. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a document feeder for feeding the document on the document holder and hitting the document against the document

positioning member so as to position the document at a
5 predetermined position.

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15. (Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
a document holder on which a document is placed;
a document positioning member with reference to which
the document is positioned on the document holder;
5 means for detecting an inclination angle of the
document positioning member with respect to a main body of the
image reading apparatus, and for storing inclination information
based on the detected inclination angle of the document
positioning member;
10 an image reading device for reading an image of the
document positioned on the document holder;
a correcting device for correcting an inclination angle
of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with
the stored inclination information; and
15 an image recording device for recording the image
corrected by the correcting device on a recording material.

16. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 15,
further comprising a calculating device for calculating the
inclination angle of the image read by the image reading device,
and wherein the inclination angle of the image read by the image
5 reading device is utilized to detect the inclination angle of the
document positioning member.

17. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 16, wherein the image read by the image reading device is a test pattern image, and the image reading device comprises:

10 a plurality of charge coupled devices arranged along a primary scanning direction; and

detector for detecting a number of pixels, read by the plurality of charge coupled devices, of a straight line drawn in a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to the primary scanning direction on the test pattern image; and

15

wherein the calculating device calculates the detected inclination angle of the document positioning member based on the number of pixels detected by the detector.

18. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a test pattern image memory for storing test pattern image data indicating the test pattern image,

wherein the test pattern image is recorded by the image recording device based on the test pattern image data and the test pattern image comprises a straight line which is perpendicular to a predetermined edge of the recording material; and

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wherein the image reading device reads the straight line of the test pattern image so that the predetermined edge of the recording material accords with the document positioning member.

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19. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 17,
wherein the means for storing the inclination information
comprises a memory.

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B4 / 20. (Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
a document holder on which a document is placed;
a document feeder for feeding the document and stopping
the document on the document holder;
5 means for detecting an inclination angle of a test
pattern image fed by the document feeder and stopped on the
document holder, and for storing inclination information based on
the detected information angle;
an image reading device for reading an image of the
10 document stopped by the document holder, wherein the image
reading device moves in a sub-scanning direction so as to read
the image;
a correcting device for correcting an inclination angle
of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with
15 the stored inclination information; and
an image recording device for recording the image
corrected by the correcting device on a recording material.

21. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 20,
further comprising a calculating device for calculating the
20 inclination angle of the image read by the image reading device

so as to calculate an inclination angle of a feeding direction by the document feeder.

22. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 21, wherein the image reading device comprises:

a plurality of charge coupled devices arranged along a primary scanning direction; and

5 a detector for detecting a number of pixels, read by the plurality of charge coupled devices, of a straight line drawn in a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to the primary scanning direction on the test pattern image, so as to detect an inclination angle of the test pattern image read by the image reading device;

wherein the calculating device calculates the detected inclination angle of feeding direction by the document feeder based on the number of pixels detected by the detector.

23. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 22, further comprising a test pattern image memory for storing test pattern image data indicating the test pattern image,

5 wherein the test pattern image is recorded by the image recording device based on the test pattern image data and the test pattern image comprises a straight line which is perpendicular to a predetermined edge of the recording material; and

wherein the image reading device reads the straight
10 line of the test pattern image recorded by the image recording
device based on the test pattern image data and fed by the
document feeder.

24. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 22
wherein the means for storing the inclination information
comprises a memory.

25. (Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:
a document holder on which a document is placed;
a document feeder for feeding the document in a feeding
direction and stopping the document on the document holder;
5 means for detecting an inclination angle of a test
pattern image fed by the document feeder and stopped on the
document holder, and for first storing inclination information
based on the detected inclination angle;

a document positioning member with reference to which
10 the document is positioned on the document holder;

means for detecting an inclination angle of the
document positioning member with respect to a main body of the
image reading apparatus, and for storing second inclination
information based on the detected inclination angle of the
15 document positioning member;

an image reading device for reading an image of the
document stopped on the document holder, wherein the image

reading device moves in a sub-scanning direction so as to read the image;

20 a correcting device for correcting an inclination angle of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with the second inclination information when the document is positioned on the document holder without being fed by the document feeder, and for correcting the inclination angle of the
25 image read by the image reading device in accordance with the first inclination information when the document is fed and stopped on the document holder by the document feeder; and

an image recording device for recording the image corrected by the correcting device on a recording material.

26. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 25, further comprising a calculating device for calculating the inclination angle of the image read by the image reading device according to the inclination angle of the document positioning
5 member and the feeding direction by the document feeder.

27. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 26, wherein the image reading device comprises:

a plurality of charge coupled devices arranged along a primary scanning direction; and

10 a detector for detecting a number of pixels, read by the plurality of charge coupled devices, of a straight line drawn in a sub-scanning direction perpendicular to the primary scanning

direction on the test pattern image, so as to detect an
inclination angle of the test pattern image read by the image
15 reading device;

wherein the calculating device calculates the detected
inclination angle of the document positioning member and the
feeding direction by the document feeder based on the number of
pixels detected by the detector.

28. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 27,
further comprising a test pattern image memory for storing test
pattern image data indicating the test pattern image,

wherein the test pattern image is recorded by the image
5 recording device based on the test pattern image data and the
test pattern image comprises a straight line which is
perpendicular to a predetermined edge of the recording material;
and

wherein the image reading device reads the straight
10 line of the test pattern image so that the predetermined edge of
the recording material accords with the document positioning
member, and the image reading device reads the straight line of
the test pattern image recorded by the image recording device
based on the test pattern image data and fed by the document
15 feeder.

29. (Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 27
wherein the means for storing the first inclination information

comprises a first memory, and the means for storing the second inclination comprises a second memory.

5 ^{Sub} ~~30.~~ (Amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:
a document holder through which a document passes;
a document feeder for feeding a document to an image
reading position on the document holder;
means for detecting a distortion of a test pattern
10 image fed by the document feeder and stopped at the image reading
position, and for storing distortion information based on the
detected distortion;
an image reading device for reading an image of the
document while the document passes through the image reading
15 position; and
a correcting device for correcting a distortion of the
image read by the image reading device in accordance with the
stored distortion information.

31. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 30,
wherein the means for storing the distortion information
comprises a memory, and wherein the distortion information is
calculated based on an inclination angle of a feeding direction
5 by the document feeder.

32. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 31,
further comprising an inputting device for inputting the
distortion information to the memory.

33. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 32,
5 wherein the inputting device is connected to an outside inputting
device, and the inputting device receives the distortion
information from the outside inputting device.

34. (Amended) The image reading apparatus of claim 30,
further comprising:

a document positioning member with reference to which
the document is positioned on the document holder; and

means for detecting an inclination angle of the
document positioning member with respect to a main body of the
image reading apparatus, and for storing inclination information
based on the detected inclination angle of the document
positioning member;

10 wherein the correcting device corrects an inclination
angle of the image read by the image reading device in accordance
with the stored inclination information when the document is
positioned on the document holder without being fed by the
document feeder; and

15 wherein the correcting device corrects the distortion
of the image read by the image reading device in accordance with
the inclination angle of the feeding direction by the document
feeder when the document is fed by the document feeder to the
image reading position.